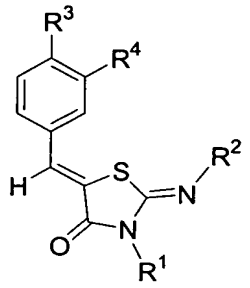
Claims

1. Pharmaceutical composition containing at least one thiazolidin-4-one derivative of the General Formula (I)



General Formula (I)

wherein:

R^1 represents lower alkyl, lower alkenyl; cycloalkyl; 5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphth-1-yl; 5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphth-2-yl; a phenyl group; a phenyl group independently mono-, di- or trisubstituted with lower alkyl, halogen, lower alkoxy, or $-CF_3$;

R^2 represents lower alkyl; allyl; cyclopropyl; cyclobutyl; cyclopentyl; mono- or di-lower alkylamino;

R^3 represents $-NR^5R^6$; $-O-CR^7R^8-CR^9R^{10}-(CR^{11}R^{12})_n-O-R^{13}$;

R^4 represents hydrogen; hydroxy; lower alkoxy; lower alkyl; halogen; or R^3 and R^4 together may form a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy ring optionally further substituted with a hydroxy methyl group;

R^5 and R^6 each represents independently lower alkyl;

R^7 represents hydrogen, lower alkyl, or hydroxymethyl;

R^8, R^9, R^{11} and R^{12} each represents independently hydrogen or methyl;

R^{10} represents hydrogen or lower alkyl; in case n represents the integer 1, R^{10} in addition represents lower alkoxy, hydroxy, $-NH_2$, $-NHR^5$ or $-NR^5R^6$;

R^{13} represents hydrogen; lower alkyl; hydroxycarbonyl-lower alkyl; 1-glyceryl or 2-glyceryl;

n represents the integer 0 or 1;

and configurational isomers, optically pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers such as racemates, diastereomers, mixtures of diastereomers, diastereomeric racemates, mixtures of diastereomeric racemates and the meso-form, as well as pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvent complexes, and morphological forms, and inert carrier material.

2. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 in which said thiazolidin-4-one derivatives are the (Z,Z)-isomers according to General Formula (I) in claim 1.

3. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 or 2 for the prevention or treatment of disorders associated with an activated immune system.

4. Pharmaceutical composition according to any of claims 1 to 3 for the prevention or treatment of organ transplant rejection or graft-versus-host diseases.

5. Pharmaceutical composition according to any of claims 1 to 4 for the prevention or treatment of diseases or disorders associated with an activated immune system selected from the group consisting of autoimmune syndromes including rheumatoid arthritis; systemic lupus erythematosus; Hashimoto's thyroiditis; lymphocytic thyroiditis; multiple sclerosis; myasthenia gravis; type I diabetes; uveitis; posterior uveitis; uveitis associated with Behcet's disease; uveomeningitis syndrome; allergic encephalomyelitis; chronic allograft vasculopathy; post-infectious autoimmune diseases including rheumatic fever and post-infectious glomerulonephritis; inflammatory and hyperproliferative skin

diseases; psoriasis; atopic dermatitis; osteomyelitis; contact dermatitis; eczematous dermatitis; seborrhoeic dermatitis; lichen planus; pemphigus; bullous pemphigoid; epidermolysis bullosa; urticaria; angioedema; vasculitis; erythema; cutaneous eosinophilia; acne; alopecia areata; keratoconjunctivitis; vernal conjunctivitis; keratitis; herpetic keratitis; dystrophia epithelialis corneae; corneal leukoma; ocular pemphigus; Mooren's ulcer; ulcerative keratitis; scleritis; Graves' ophthalmopathy; Vogt-Koyanagi-Harada syndrome; sarcoidosis; pollen allergies; reversible obstructive airway disease; bronchial asthma; allergic asthma; intrinsic asthma; extrinsic asthma; dust asthma; chronic or inveterate asthma; late asthma and airway hyper-responsiveness; bronchitis; gastric ulcers; ischemic bowel diseases; inflammatory bowel diseases; necrotizing enterocolitis; intestinal lesions associated with thermal burns; coeliac diseases; proctitis; eosinophilic gastroenteritis; mastocytosis; Crohn's disease; ulcerative colitis; vascular damage caused by ischemic diseases and thrombosis; atherosclerosis; fatty heart; myocarditis; cardiac infarction; arteriosclerosis; aortitis syndrome; cachexia due to viral disease; vascular thrombosis; migraine; rhinitis; eczema; interstitial nephritis; IgA-induced nephropathy; Goodpasture's syndrome; hemolytic-uremic syndrome; diabetic nephropathy; glomerulosclerosis; glomerulonephritis; multiple myositis; Guillain-Barre syndrome; Meniere's disease; polyneuritis; multiple neuritis; mononeuritis; radiculopathy; hyperthyroidism; Basedow's disease; thyrotoxicosis; pure red cell aplasia; aplastic anemia; hypoplastic anemia; idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura; autoimmune hemolytic anemia; agranulocytosis; pernicious anemia; megaloblastic anemia; anerythroplasia; osteoporosis; sarcoidosis; fibroid lung; idiopathic interstitial pneumonia; dermatomyositis; leukoderma vulgaris; ichthyosis vulgaris; photoallergic sensitivity; cutaneous T cell lymphoma; polyarteritis nodosa; Huntington's chorea; Sydenham's chorea; myocardosis; scleroderma; Wegener's granuloma; Sjogren's syndrome; adiposis; eosinophilic fascitis; lesions of gingiva, periodontium, alveolar bone, substantia ossea dentis; male pattern alopecia or alopecia senilis; muscular dystrophy; pyoderma; Sezary's syndrome; chronic adrenal insufficiency; Addison's disease; ischemia-reperfusion injury of organs which occurs upon preservation; endotoxin shock; pseudomembranous colitis; colitis caused by drug or radiation; ischemic acute renal insufficiency; chronic renal insufficiency; lung cancer; malignancy of

lymphoid origin; acute or chronic lymphocytic leukemias; lymphoma; psoriasis; pulmonary emphysema; cataracta; siderosis; retinitis pigmentosa; senile macular degeneration; vitreal scarring; corneal alkali burn; dermatitis erythema; ballous dermatitis; cement dermatitis; gingivitis; periodontitis; sepsis; pancreatitis; carcinogenesis; metastasis of carcinoma; hypobaropathy; autoimmune hepatitis; primary biliary cirrhosis; sclerosing cholangitis; partial liver resection; acute liver necrosis; cirrhosis; alcoholic cirrhosis; hepatic failure; fulminant hepatic failure; late-onset hepatic failure; "acute-on-chronic" liver failure.

6. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5 for the treatment or prevention of disorders which are selected from the group consisting of autoimmune syndromes including rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis; pollen allergies; type I diabetes; prevention of psoriasis; Crohn's disease; post-infectious autoimmune diseases including rheumatic fever and post-infectious glomerulonephritis; and metastasis of carcinoma.

7. Use of one or more compound of the General Formula (I) in claim 1 for the prevention or treatment of disorders associated with an activated immune system.

8. Use of one or more compound of the General Formula (I) in claim 1 for the prevention or treatment of organ transplant rejection or graft-versus-host diseases.

9. Use according to claim 7 comprising disorders which are selected from the group consisting of autoimmune syndromes including rheumatoid arthritis; systemic lupus erythematosus; Hashimoto's thyroiditis; lymphocytic thyroiditis; multiple sclerosis; myasthenia gravis; type I diabetes; uveitis; posterior uveitis; uveitis associated with Behcet's disease; uveomeningitis syndrome; allergic encephalomyelitis; chronic allograft vasculopathy; post-infectious autoimmune diseases including rheumatic fever and post-infectious glomerulonephritis; inflammatory and hyperproliferative skin diseases; psoriasis; atopic dermatitis; osteomyelitis; contact dermatitis; eczematous dermatitis; seborrhoeic dermatitis; lichen planus; pemphigus; bullous pemphigoid; epidermolysis bullosa; urticaria; angioedema; vasculitis; erythema; cutaneous eosinophilia; acne; alopecia areata;

keratoconjunctivitis; vernal conjunctivitis; keratitis; herpetic keratitis; dystrophia epithelialis corneae; corneal leukoma; ocular pemphigus; Mooren's ulcer; ulcerative keratitis; scleritis; Graves' ophthalmopathy; Vogt-Koyanagi-Harada syndrome; sarcoidosis; pollen allergies; reversible obstructive airway disease; bronchial asthma; allergic asthma; intrinsic asthma; extrinsic asthma; dust asthma; chronic or inveterate asthma; late asthma and airway hyper-responsiveness; bronchitis; gastric ulcers; ischemic bowel diseases; inflammatory bowel diseases; necrotizing enterocolitis; intestinal lesions associated with thermal burns; coeliac diseases; proctitis; eosinophilic gastroenteritis; mastocytosis; Crohn's disease; ulcerative colitis; vascular damage caused by ischemic diseases and thrombosis; atherosclerosis; fatty heart; myocarditis; cardiac infarction; arteriosclerosis; aortitis syndrome; cachexia due to viral disease; vascular thrombosis; migraine; rhinitis; eczema; interstitial nephritis; IgA-induced nephropathy; Goodpasture's syndrome; hemolytic-uremic syndrome; diabetic nephropathy; glomerulosclerosis; glomerulonephritis; multiple myositis; Guillain-Barre syndrome; Meniere's disease; polyneuritis; multiple neuritis; mononeuritis; radiculopathy; hyperthyroidism; Basedow's disease; thyrotoxicosis; pure red cell aplasia; aplastic anemia; hypoplastic anemia; idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura; autoimmune hemolytic anemia; agranulocytosis; pernicious anemia; megaloblastic anemia; anerythroplasia; osteoporosis; sarcoidosis; fibroid lung; idiopathic interstitial pneumonia; dermatomyositis; leukoderma vulgaris; ichthyosis vulgaris; photoallergic sensitivity; cutaneous T cell lymphoma; polyarteritis nodosa; Huntington's chorea; Sydenham's chorea; myocardosis; scleroderma; Wegener's granuloma; Sjogren's syndrome; adiposis; eosinophilic fascitis; lesions of gingiva, periodontium, alveolar bone, substantia ossea dentis; male pattern alopecia or alopecia senilis; muscular dystrophy; pyoderma; Sezary's syndrome; chronic adrenal insufficiency; Addison's disease; ischemia-reperfusion injury of organs which occurs upon preservation; endotoxin shock; pseudomembranous colitis; colitis caused by drug or radiation; ischemic acute renal insufficiency; chronic renal insufficiency; lung cancer; malignancy of lymphoid origin; acute or chronic lymphocytic leukemias; lymphoma; psoriasis; pulmonary emphysema; cataracta; siderosis; retinitis pigmentosa; senile macular degeneration; vitreal scarring; corneal alkali burn; dermatitis erythema; ballous dermatitis; cement dermatitis;

gingivitis; periodontitis; sepsis; pancreatitis; carcinogenesis; metastasis of carcinoma; hypobaropathy; autoimmune hepatitis; primary biliary cirrhosis; sclerosing cholangitis; partial liver resection; acute liver necrosis; cirrhosis; alcoholic cirrhosis; hepatic failure; fulminant hepatic failure; late-onset hepatic failure; "acute-on-chronic" liver failure.

10. Use according to claim 7 in which said disorders are selected from the group consisting of autoimmune syndromes including rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis; pollen allergies; type I diabetes; prevention of psoriasis; Crohn's disease; post-infectious autoimmune diseases including rheumatic fever and post-infectious glomerulonephritis; and metastasis of carcinoma.

11. Use of one or more compounds of the General Formula (I) in claim 1 in combination with one or several immunosuppressant compounds for the treatment of disorders associated with an activated immune system.

12. Use according to claim 11 wherein said other immunosuppressant compound is selected from the group consisting of cyclosporin, daclizumab, basiliximab, everolimus, tacrolimus (FK506), azathiopirene, leflunomide, 15-deoxyspergualin, or other immunosuppressant drugs.

13. A method for the prevention or treatment of disorders associated with an activated immune system comprising the administration to the patient of a pharmaceutical composition containing at least one compound of the General Formula (I) in claim 1.

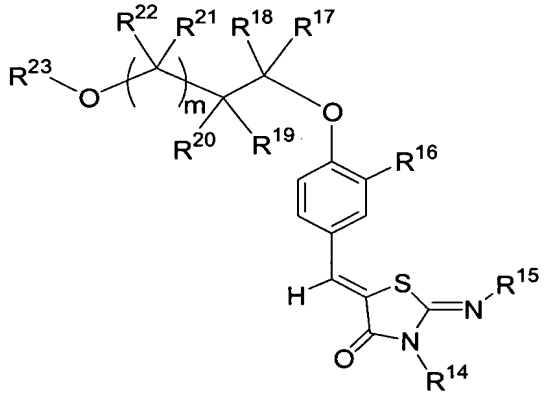
14. A method for the prevention or treatment of disorders of organ transplant rejection or graft-versus-host diseases comprising the administration to the patient of a pharmaceutical composition containing at least one compound of the General Formula (I) in claim 1.

15. A method according to claim 13 or 14 by administering to a patient a dose of the thiazolidin-4-one derivative of the General Formula (I) in claim 1 between 0.5 mg and 1000 mg per day.

16. A method according to claim 15 by administering to a patient a dose of the thiazolidin-4-one derivative of the General Formula (I) between 1 mg and 500 mg per day.

17. A method according to claim 16 by administering to a patient a dose of the thiazolidin-4-one derivative of the General Formula (I) between 5 mg and 200 mg per day.

18. Novel thiazolidin-4-one derivatives of the General Formula (II)



General Formula (II)

wherein:

R^{14} represents lower alkyl, lower alkenyl; cycloalkyl; 5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphth-1-yl; 5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphth-2-yl; a phenyl group; a phenyl group mono-, di- or trisubstituted independently with lower alkyl, halogen, lower alkoxy, or $-CF_3$;

R^{15} represents lower alkyl; allyl; cyclopropyl; cyclobutyl; cyclopentyl; mono- or di-lower alkylamino;

R^{16} represents hydrogen; hydroxy; lower alkoxy; lower alkyl or halogen;

R^{17} represents hydrogen, lower alkyl, or hydroxymethyl;

R^{18}, R^{19}, R^{21} and R^{22} each represents independently hydrogen or methyl;

R^{20} represents hydrogen or lower alkyl; and in case m represents the integer 1, R^{20} in addition represents lower alkoxy, hydroxy, $-NH_2$, $-NHR^5$ or $-NR^5R^6$;

R^{23} represents hydrogen; lower alkyl; hydroxycarbonyl-lower alkyl; 1-glyceryl or 2-glyceryl;

m represents the integer 0 or 1;

and configurational isomers, optically pure enantiomers, mixtures of enantiomers such as racemates, diastereomers, mixtures of diastereomers, diastereomeric racemates, mixtures of diastereomeric racemates and the meso-form, as well as pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

19. Thiazolidin-4-one derivatives according to claim 18 in which said thiazolidin-4-one derivatives according to formula (II) are (*Z,Z*) isomers.

20. Thiazolidin-4-one derivatives according to any of claim 18 and 19 wherein R^{14} represents an unsubstituted, a mono- or disubstituted phenyl group.

21. Thiazolidin-4-one derivatives according to any of claim 18 to 20 wherein R^{14} represents an unsubstituted, a mono- or disubstituted phenyl group, substituted with methyl or halogen.

22. Thiazolidin-4-one derivatives according to any of claims 18 and 19 wherein R^{15} represents lower alkyl.

23. Thiazolidin-4-one derivatives according to any of claims 18 and 19 wherein R^{16} represents halogen or methyl.

24. Thiazolidin-4-one derivatives according to any of claims 18 and 19 wherein m represents the integer 0, and R^{17}, R^{18}, R^{19} and R^{20} represent hydrogen.

25. Thiazolidin-4-one derivatives according to any of claims 18 and 19 wherein m represents the integer 1, R^{17}, R^{18}, R^{19}, R^{21} and R^{22}, represent hydrogen, and R^{20} represents hydroxy.

26. Thiazolidin-4-one derivatives according to any of claims 18 and 19 wherein R^{23} represents hydrogen.

27. Thiazolidin-4-one derivatives according to any of claims 18 and 19 wherein m represents the integer 0, R^{17}, R^{18}, R^{19}, R^{20} and R^{23} represent hydrogen.

28. Thiazolidin-4-one derivatives according to any of claims 18 and 19 wherein m represents the integer 1, R^{17}, R^{18}, R^{19}, R^{21}, R^{22} and R^{23} represent hydrogen, and R^{20} represents hydroxy.

29. Thiazolidin-4-one derivatives according to claim 18 to 23 wherein R^{14} represents an unsubstituted, a mono- or disubstituted phenyl group, substituted with methyl or halogen, R^{15} represents lower alkyl.

30. Thiazolidin-4-one derivatives according to any of claims 18 and 19 wherein R^{14} represents an unsubstituted, a mono- or disubstituted phenyl group, substituted with methyl or halogen, m represents the integer 0, R^{17}, R^{18}, R^{19}, R^{20} and R^{23} represent hydrogen.

31. Thiazolidin-4-one derivatives according to any of claims 18 and 19 wherein R^{14} represents an unsubstituted, a mono- or disubstituted phenyl group, substituted with methyl or halogen, m represents the integer 1, R^{17}, R^{18}, R^{19}, R^{21}, R^{22} and R^{23} represent hydrogen, and R^{20} represents hydroxy.

32. Thiazolidin-4-one derivatives according to any of claims 18 and 19 wherein R^{14} represents an unsubstituted, a mono- or disubstituted phenyl group,

substituted with methyl or halogen, R^{15} represents lower alkyl, R^{16} represents methyl or halogen, m represents the integer 0, and R^{17}, R^{18}, R^{19}, R^{20} and R^{23} each represent hydrogen.

33. Thiazolidin-4-one derivatives according to any of any of claims 18 and 19 wherein R^{14} represents an unsubstituted, a mono- or disubstituted phenyl group, substituted with methyl or halogen; R^{15} represents lower alkyl, R^{16} represents methyl or halogen, m represents the integer 1, R^{17}, R^{18}, R^{19}, R^{21} R^{22}, R^{23} represent hydrogen, and R^{20} represents hydroxy.

34. A thiazolidin-4-one derivative according to any of claims 18 to 33 selected from the group consisting of:

5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

{2-[4-(2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-4-oxo-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-5-[Z]-ylidenemethyl)-phenoxy]-ethoxy}-acetic acid,

rac-5-{4-[2-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-ethoxy]-benz[Z]ylidene}-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-fluoro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-3-methyl-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-3-methoxy-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(3-hydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-[4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-{4-[2-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-ethoxy]-benz[Z]ylidene}-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-3-methoxy-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(3-hydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-m-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-m-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-m-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-p-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-p-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-p-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-{4-[2-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-ethoxy]-benz[Z]ylidene}-3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-5-[3-fluoro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-3-methyl-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-3-methoxy-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

3-(2,4-dimethyl-phenyl)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-(2,3-dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxin-6-[Z]-ylmethylene)-3-(2,6-dimethyl-phenyl)-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

3-(2,6-dimethyl-phenyl)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

3-(2-chloro-phenyl)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-(2-chloro-phenyl)-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-(2-chloro-phenyl)-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-(2,3-dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxin-6-[Z]-ylmethylene)-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-thiazolidin-4-one,

3-allyl-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

3-allyl-5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-3-allyl-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-2-([Z]-propylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-2-([Z]-propylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-3-methyl-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-2-([Z]-propylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-2-([Z]-propylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-propylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(3-hydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-propylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-propylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-3-methyl-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-propylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-propylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

(R)-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-propylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

(S)-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-propylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-propylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-{4-[2-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-ethoxy]-benz[Z]ylidene}-3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-2-([Z]-propylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-2-([Z]-propylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-3-methyl-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-propylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-3-methoxy-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-propylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-[4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-2-([Z]-propylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-2-([Z]-propylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

2-([Z]-tert-butylimino)-5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

2-(dimethyl-hydrazono)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-(dimethyl-hydrazono)-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

2-([Z]-ethylimino)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-Ethylimino)-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

2-([Z]-ethylimino)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-ethylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-2-([Z]-ethylimino)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-2-([Z]-ethylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

2-([Z]-butylimino)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

2-([Z]-butylimino)-5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

2-([Z]-butylimino)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

2-([Z]-butylimino)-5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

2-([Z]-butylimino)-3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-thiazolidin-4-one,

2-([Z]-butylimino)-5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-thiazolidin-4-one,

2-([Z]-sec-butylimino)-5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

2-([Z]-cyclopropylimino)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

3-cyclohexyl-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-cyclohexyl-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(2-Hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-isopropyl-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-isopropyl-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-isopropyl-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

2-([Z]-allylimino)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

2-([Z]-allylimino)-5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

3-allyl-2-([Z]-allylimino)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-thiazolidin-4-one,

3-allyl-2-([Z]-allylimino)-5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-methylimino)-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-2-([Z]-methylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

35. A thiazolidin-4-one derivative according to any of claims 18 to 33 selected from the group consisting of:

5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-2-([Z]-propylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-3-methyl-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-2-([Z]-propylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-2-([Z]-propylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-propylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

(R)-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-propylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

(S)-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-propylimino)-3-o-tolyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-2-([Z]-propylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

rac-5-[3-chloro-4-(2,3-dihydroxy-propoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-2-([Z]-propylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

2-(dimethyl-hydrazono)-5-[4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-2-([Z]-Ethylimino)-3-phenyl-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-(2,3-dimethyl-phenyl)-2-([Z]-ethylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one,

5-[3-chloro-4-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-benz[Z]ylidene]-3-isopropyl-2-([Z]-isopropylimino)-thiazolidin-4-one.

36. A thiazolidin-4-one derivative according to any of claims 18 to 35 for use as a medicament.

37. Use of one or more compound of the General Formula (II) in claim 18 for the prevention or treatment of disorders associated with an activated immune system.

38. Use of one or more compound of the General Formula (II) in claim 18 for the prevention or treatment of organ transplant rejection or graft-versus-host diseases.

39. Use according to claim 37 for the prevention or treatment of disorders which are selected from the group as claimed in claim 5.

40. Pharmaceutical composition containing at least one compound of the General Formula (II) in claim 18 and inert carrier material.

41. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 40 for the prevention or treatment of disorders accociated with an activated immune system.

42. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 40 for the prevention or treatment of organ transplant rejection or graft-versus-host disease.

43. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 40 for the prevention or treatment of disorders which are selected form the group as claimed in claim 5.

44. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 40 for the prevention or treatment of disorders which are selected from the group consisting of autoimmune syndromes including rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis; pollen allergies; type I diabetes; prevention of psoriasis; Crohn's disease; post-infectious autoimmune diseases including rheumatic fever and post-infectious glomerulonephritis; and metastasis of carcinoma.

45. A process for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of the General Formula (II) in claim 18, characterized by mixing one or more active ingredients according to any one of claims 18 to 35 with inert excipients in a manner known *per se.*

39. A process for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of the General Formula (I) in claim 1, characterized by mixing one or more active ingredients according to General Formula (I) with inert excipients in a manner known *per se.*